

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 07356 120835Z

15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /077 W

----- 027890

P 120617Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9080

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 7356

FROM AMBASSADOR HARGROVE FOR HUMMEL AND KATZ

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, ETRD, AS

SUBJ: U.S. IMPOSITION OF MEAT QUOTAS - SOME FURTHER
AUSTRLIAN REACTIONS

REF (A) CANBERRA 7325, (B) STATE 252290, (C) STATE 250913,
(D) CANBERRA 7309, (E) STATE 250107, (F) STATE 250122,
(G) KATZ-SMITH MEMCON, SEPT. 13, 1976 "THE MEAT ISSUE"

1. IN WIDELY REPORTED SPEECH BEFORE UNITED GRAZERS'
ASSOCIATION IN BISBANE, MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRY AND
DEPUTY LEADER OF NATIONAL COUNTRY PARTY, SINCLAIR, STRONGLY
CRITICAL OF U.S. ACTION IN IMPOSING MEAT QUOTAS.

2. SINCLAIR REPORTED AS SAYING THAT APPLICATION OF QUOTAS " IS
A BLATANT POLITICAL ACTION AND AGAINST THE SPIRIT, IF NOT THE
LETTER OF THE GATT." IN THIS CONNECTION, HE IS ALSO STATED TO
HAVE CHARGED THAT PRESIDENTIAL DECISION WAS MADE WHILE
PRESIDENT FORD WAS CAMPAIGNING IN CATTLE STATES OF TEXAS
AND OKLAHOMA.

3. SINCLAIR ALSO ATTACKED CANADIAN EXPORTS TO U.S., SAYING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CANBER 07356 120835Z

"IT IS AUSTRLIA'S FIRM VIEW THAT IT IS CANADIAN SHIPMENTS

RATHER THAN ANY OTHER WHICH HAS NOW CAUSED THE U.S. ACTION. THE CRITICAL ASPECTS OF THE QUOTAS IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY WILL BE APPLIED AGAINST CANADA, AND IN TURN WHETHER CANADA APPLIES QUOTA RESTRICTIONS FOR BEEF COMING INTO HER MARKETS."

4. SINCLAIR TOLD GRAZIER THAT AUSTRALIA HAD CAREFULLY MONITORED SHIPMENTS OF BEEF TO U.S., AND ADDED "IT IS TRUE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN BEEF SHIPPED THROUGH MAYAGUEZ IN PUERTO RICO RISING FROM SOME 100 TONNES IN 1975 TO NEARLY 23,000 TONNES SO FAR THIS YEAR. IT WAS WITH THE U.S. APPROVAL," HE IS FURTHER REPORTED TO HAVE SAID, "AND INDEED DIRECTLY AS A RESULT OF THEIR LEGISLATION THAT THESE WERE LEFT OUTSIDE OF PERMITTED AUSTRALIAN EXPORTS."

5. SINCLAIR WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT WHILE THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY ON AUSTRALIA'S SHIPMENTS FOR THE BALANCE OF THIS YEAR, THERE SHOULD BE 73,800 TONNES TO BE SHIPPED (ELSEWHERE DIVERSELY REPORTED AS 147.6 MILLION POUNDS --66,678 TONNES). HE IS ALSO STATED TO HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN BEEF INDUSTRY STANDS TO LOSE \$A1,000 FOR EVERY TONNE ITS QUOTA IS REDUCED.

6. COMMENT: THE REACTIONS OF PRIMIN FRASER (CANBERRA 7325) AND NOW SINCLAIR ARE AS WE EXPECTED, AND WILL CERTAINLY BECOME MORE BITTER IF AUSTRALIAN QUOTA REDUCED BELOW LEVEL OF COMMITMENT DISCUSSED IN KATZ-SMITH MEMCON. AUSTRALIAN REACTION CONFIRMS MY BELIEF THAT ANY BREACH OF THIS COMMITMENT COULD BE VERY COSTLY TO U.S. INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA (CANBERRA 7309). HARGROVE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFFS, TRADE CONTROLS, MEATS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CANBER07356
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760382-1142
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761062/aaaacboy.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 CANBERRA 7325, 76 STATE 252290, 76 STATE 250913, 76 CANBERRA 7309, 76 STATE 250107, 76 STATE 250122
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. IMPOSITION OF MEAT QUOTAS - SOME FURTHER AUSTRALIAN REACTIONS
TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, ETRD, AS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006